

FILED: March 22, 2013

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

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No. 12-7776  
(1:12-cv-01085-CCB)

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ROYAL DIAMOND DOWNS

Petitioner - Appellant

v.

STATE OF MARYLAND; PERRY PHELPS, Warden; ATTORNEY GENERAL  
OF MARYLAND

Respondents - Appellees

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J U D G M E N T

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In accordance with the decision of this court, a certificate of appealability is  
denied and the appeal is dismissed.

This judgment shall take effect upon issuance of this court's mandate in  
accordance with Fed. R. App. P. 41.

/s/ PATRICIA S. CONNOR, CLERK

UNPUBLISHED

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

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No. 12-7776

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ROYAL DIAMOND DOWNS,

Petitioner - Appellant,

v.

STATE OF MARYLAND; PERRY PHELPS, Warden; ATTORNEY GENERAL  
OF MARYLAND,

Respondents - Appellees.

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Appeal from the United States District Court for the District of  
Maryland, at Baltimore. Catherine C. Blake, District Judge.  
(1:12-cv-01085-CCB)

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Submitted: February 28, 2013

Decided: March 22, 2013

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Before KEENAN, WYNN, and FLOYD, Circuit Judges.

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Dismissed by unpublished per curiam opinion.

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Royal Diamond Downs, Appellant Pro Se. Edward John Kelley,  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MARYLAND, Baltimore, Maryland,  
for Appellees.

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Unpublished opinions are not binding precedent in this circuit.

PER CURIAM:

Royal Diamond Downs seeks to appeal the district court's orders dismissing as untimely his 28 U.S.C. § 2254 (2006) petition and denying his motion to alter or amend the judgment. These orders are not appealable unless a circuit justice or judge issues a certificate of appealability. See 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(1)(A) (2006). A certificate of appealability will not issue absent "a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right." 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(2) (2006). When the district court denies relief on the merits, a prisoner satisfies this standard by demonstrating that reasonable jurists would find that the district court's assessment of the constitutional claims is debatable or wrong. Slack v. McDaniel, 529 U.S. 473, 484 (2000); see Miller-El v. Cockrell, 537 U.S. 322, 336-38 (2003). When the district court denies relief on procedural grounds, the prisoner must demonstrate both that the dispositive procedural ruling is debatable, and that the petition states a debatable claim of the denial of a constitutional right. Slack, 529 U.S. at 484-85.

We have independently reviewed the record and conclude that Downs has not made the requisite showing. Accordingly, we deny a certificate of appealability, deny leave to proceed in forma pauperis, and dismiss the appeal. We dispense with oral argument because the facts and legal contentions are adequately

presented in the materials before this court and argument would not aid the decisional process.

DISMISSED

FILED: March 22, 2013

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

No. 12-7776, Royal Downs v. State of Maryland  
1:12-cv-01085-CCB

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NOTICE OF JUDGMENT

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Judgment was entered on this date in accordance with Fed. R. App. P. 36. Please be advised of the following time periods:

**PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI:** To be timely, a petition for certiorari must be filed in the United States Supreme Court within 90 days of this court's entry of judgment. The time does not run from issuance of the mandate. If a petition for panel or en banc rehearing is timely filed, the time runs from denial of that petition. Review on writ of certiorari is not a matter of right, but of judicial discretion, and will be granted only for compelling reasons.  
([www.supremecourtus.gov](http://www.supremecourtus.gov))

**VOUCHERS FOR PAYMENT OF APPOINTED OR ASSIGNED**

**COUNSEL:** Vouchers are sent to counsel appointed or assigned by the court in a separate transmission at the time judgment is entered. CJA 30 vouchers are sent to counsel in capital cases. CJA 20 vouchers are sent to counsel in criminal, post-judgment, habeas, and § 2255 cases. Assigned counsel vouchers are sent to counsel in civil, civil rights, and agency cases. Vouchers should be completed and returned within 60 days of the later of entry of judgment, denial of a petition for rehearing, or the grant or denial of a petition for writ of certiorari. If counsel appointed or assigned by the court did not receive a voucher, forms and instructions are available from the court's web site, [www.ca4.uscourts.gov](http://www.ca4.uscourts.gov), or from the clerk's office.

**BILL OF COSTS:** A party to whom costs are allowable, who desires taxation of costs, shall file a Bill of Costs within 14 calendar days of entry of judgment. (FRAP 39, Loc. R. 39(b)).

### **PETITION FOR REHEARING AND PETITION FOR REHEARING EN**

**BANC:** A petition for rehearing must be filed within 14 calendar days after entry of judgment, except that in civil cases in which the United States or its officer or agency is a party, the petition must be filed within 45 days after entry of judgment. A petition for rehearing en banc must be filed within the same time limits and in the same document as the petition for rehearing and must be clearly identified in the title. The only grounds for an extension of time to file a petition for rehearing are the death or serious illness of counsel or a family member (or of a party or family member in pro se cases) or an extraordinary circumstance wholly beyond the control of counsel or a party proceeding without counsel.

Each case number to which the petition applies must be listed on the petition to identify the cases to which the petition applies and to avoid companion cases proceeding to mandate during the pendency of a petition for rehearing in the lead case. A timely filed petition for rehearing or petition for rehearing en banc stays the mandate and tolls the running of time for filing a petition for writ of certiorari.

A petition for rehearing must contain an introduction stating that, in counsel's judgment, one or more of the following situations exist: (1) a material factual or legal matter was overlooked; (2) a change in the law occurred after submission of the case and was overlooked; (3) the opinion conflicts with a decision of the U.S. Supreme Court, this court, or another court of appeals, and the conflict was not addressed; or (4) the case involves one or more questions of exceptional importance. A petition for rehearing, with or without a petition for rehearing en banc, may not exceed 15 pages. Copies are not required unless requested by the court. (FRAP 35 & 40, Loc. R. 40(c)).

**MANDATE:** In original proceedings before this court, there is no mandate. Unless the court shortens or extends the time, in all other cases, the mandate issues 7 days after the expiration of the time for filing a petition for rehearing. A timely petition for rehearing, petition for rehearing en banc, or motion to stay the mandate will stay issuance of the mandate. If the petition or motion is denied, the mandate will issue 7 days later. A motion to stay the mandate will ordinarily be denied, unless the motion presents a substantial question or otherwise sets forth good or probable cause for a stay. (FRAP 41, Loc. R. 41).